

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TAIPEI 00415 220444Z
ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 SYE-00 ISO-00 /006 W
-----220451Z 008385 /15 C

P R 220426Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2355
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L TAIPEI 415

NO FOREIGN DISSEMINATION

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, PINS, TW
SUBJECT: GROC ISSUES STATUS REPORT ON INVESTIGATION OF
PACKAGE BOMB INCIDENT AGAINST GOVERNOR HSIEH

REF: TAIPEI 305 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY: THE FIRST OFFICIAL PUBLIC ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE PACKAGE BOMB INCIDENT AGAINST GOVERNOR HSIEH BROKE INTO THE PRESS ON JANUARY 22, WHEN LOCAL NEWSPAPERS CARRIED A GOVERNMENT INFORMATION OFFICE (GIO) PRESS RELEASE ON THE STATUS OF THE INVESTIGATION AND THE ARREST OF A SUSPECT WHO HAS "FRANKLY PLEADED GUILTY." GIO RELEASE CONFIRMS SOME OF THE RUMORS THAT WE HAVE RECENTLY OBTAINED FROM LOCAL OBSERVERS BUT OMITTS MANY OF THE DETAILS CURRENTLY BEING BRUITED IN TAIPEI. END SUMMARY.

2. FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF THE GIO RELEASE:
BEGIN TEXT: WANG HSING-NAN (3769/1630/3948), BORN IN TAINAN, WAS ARRESTED ON A CHARGE OF MAILING A PARCEL CONTAINING EXPLOSIVE TO GOVERNOR HSIEH TUNG-MIN ON OCTOBER 10 LAST YEAR.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 TAIPEI 00415 220444Z

WHEN THE PARCEL EXPLODED AND INJURED THE GOVERNOR'S HAND, THE SECURITY AUTHORITIES IMMEDIATELY ORGANIZED A SPECIAL GROUP TO INVESTIGATE. AFTER IT WAS REPORTED IN THE PRESS, THE INCIDENT CAUSED GREAT CONCERN AND INDIGNATION AT HOME AND ABROAD.

THE SECURITY AUTHORITIES SUBSEQUENTLY RECEIVED MANY TIPS.

AFTER A THOROUGH INVESTIGATION, THEY DETERMINED THAT WANG WAS THE CULPRIT.

WANG, 37, WAS A MEMBER OF AN ORGANIZATION COMMITTED TO VIOLENCE. HE USUALLY LIVED ABROAD. HE SLIPPED BACK TO TAIWAN ON JANUARY 7, AND THE SECURITY AUTHORITIES SUBJECTED HIM TO INTERROGATION IMMEDIATELY. HE HAS SINCE FRANKLY PLEADED GUILTY.

AFTER FURTHER INVESTIGATION, THE SECURITY AUTHORITIES FOUND THAT HE BOUGHT THE EXPLOSIVE IN TAIPEI AND TAINAN. WANG ADMITTED THAT HE FLED TAIWAN THE DAY HE COMMITTED THE CRIME.

THE SECURITY AUTHORITIES ARE CONTINUING THEIR INVESTIGATIONS. END TEXT.

3. ACCORDING TO LOCAL POLITICAL OBSERVERS, WANG'S DOMICILE IS IN THE U.S. LOCAL RUMORS DO NOT AGREE ON WHY WANG RETURNED TO TAIWAN ON JANUARY 7. SOME SUGGEST THAT PRESSURE WAS EXERTED ON WANG'S FAMILY TO FORCE HIM TO RETURN; OTHERS CLAIM THAT WANG BELIEVED HE HAD MANAGED TO LEAVE BEHIND NO EVIDENCE THAT WOULD INCRIMINATE HIM AND THEREFORE FELT FREE TO RETURN TO TAIWAN WHERE, ACCORDING TO ONE RUMOR, HIS FIANCEE RESIDES. ALSO ACCORDING TO LOCAL RUMORS, AT LEAST ONE OF WANG'S FRIENDS, LIN CHIN-PING (PHONETIC), WHO IS A RESIDENT OF TAINAN, HAS ALSO BEEN ARRESTED.

4. COMMENT: IT IS UNUSUAL FOR THE GROC TO PROVIDE A PUBLIC STATUS REPORT ON AN INVESTIGATION OF THIS NATURE PRIOR TO THE CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 TAIPEI 00415 220444Z

CONCLUSION OF THE INVESTIGATION. ACCORDING TO ONE LOCAL SOURCE, THE DECISION TO PUBLICIZE THE RESULTS OF THE INVESTIGATION WAS TAKEN AT THE JANUARY 19 KMT CENTRAL STANDING COMMITTEE WEEKLY MEETING, JUST ONE DAY AFTER AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN RECEIVED THREATENING LETTERS SIGNED BY THE "TAIWAN PEOPLE LIBERATION FRONT" (REFTEL). IT IS THEREFORE POSSIBLE THAT THE GROC'S DECISION TO PUBLICIZE AT THIS TIME ITS PROGRESS TOWARD SOLVING THE CASE MAY HAVE BEEN INFLUENCED BY A DESIRE TO DEMONSTRATE TO AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN AND OTHERS THE GROC'S COMPETENCE TO DEAL WITH TERRORISTS. UNGER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HARASSMENT, EXPLOSIVES, ARRESTS, PROVINCIAL GOVERNOR, POSTAL SERVICE, PRESS RELEASES, POLICE INVESTIGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 22-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977TAIPEI00415
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770023-1057
Format: TEL
From: TAIPEI
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770126/aaaaawzf.tel
Line Count: 108
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: a3b8b7d2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SY
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: NOFORN
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: NOFORN
Reference: 77 TAIPEI 305
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3527799
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GROC ISSUES STATUS REPORT ON INVESTIGATION OF PACKAGE BOMB INCIDENT AGAINST GOVERNOR HSIEH
TAGS: PINT, PINS, TW, (HSIEH TUNG MIN), (WANG HSING-NAN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a3b8b7d2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009